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REMARKS

Claims 3, 4, and 7 to 32 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 are canceled.

Claims 3, 4, 7 to 10, 13, 14, 18, 20 to 27, and 29 to 32 were previously presented.

Claims 11, 12, 15 to 17, 19, and 28 are original.

Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

This paper accompanies an information disclosure statement that makes available to the Patent and Trademark Office on form PTO/SB/08B an Office Action mailed May 11, 2005, in a co-pending U.S. patent application number 10/031,149, filed June 3, 2002 (Office Action). A copy of the Office Action is enclosed. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider carefully the complete text of the cited reference(s) in connection with the examination of the above-identified application in accord with 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(a). It is respectfully requested that all cited reference(s) considered by the Examiner be listed in the "References Cited" section of any patent issuing from the present application.

Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(d)(1) and 1.97(e)(2)

No item of information contained in the enclosed information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the enclosed information disclosure statement.

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, Applicants request reconsideration of claims 3, 4, and 7 to 32.

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Respectfully submitted,

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